



闖關第一步

—記培德高中高分通過美西院校協會第一階段評鑑

First Step Towards Accreditation

—Developing Virtue Secondary School Becomes a Candidate for WASC Accreditation

培德高中提供 BY DEVELOPING VIRTUE SECONDARY SCHOOL STAFF

培德中學的課程，取得加州大學的認可已有很多年。2003年，加州大學宣佈：加州所有私立高中，其課程已經認可的，也應得到「美西院校協會」(WASC)的評鑑合格，並且這些高中應在四年內獲得評鑑合格的「候選資格」。

該會評鑑委員會的二人視察小組，於今年五月廿一日，抵達萬佛城視察培德中學。

為準備此次評鑑，一年半以來，校方致力於行政、教學、課程與設備的改善。在師生與家長的參與下，校方修訂「立校精神」與草擬「學生之學習成果」。此外，多虧聖城維修部門添置新地磚、上了新油漆，以及為確保建築物能達到州郡政府的安全規定標準，迅速裝修

，在他們努力之下，男女校顯得極為明敞。

「法界佛青會」成員則出新點子、援手協助評鑑所需的行政作業、製作兩片學校記錄片，又支援稍早的學校開放日。「德育委員會」、「家長老師會」所屬的「學校改進小組」，和「文化委員會」相繼應運而生。在校方、家長、學生與城內住眾的通盤合作下，推出持續的工作改進計劃。

該會執行主席布朗·大衛博士與鄒·麥林格先生相伴的視察小組，對學校整體的表現是看在眼裡，印在心裡。他們幾乎走遍男女校每一間教室：如在禪堂裡，他們佇立了廿分鐘，享受那份靜謐；又隨時與師生、家長、教職員談話；過目檔案時，舉凡行政、財務、課程進度/計劃，及學生的作業，雖堆疊如山，卻一一過目。分手時，布朗博士說：「讓特優學校得特優等級」。

布朗博士告訴我們，評鑑佛教學校，這還

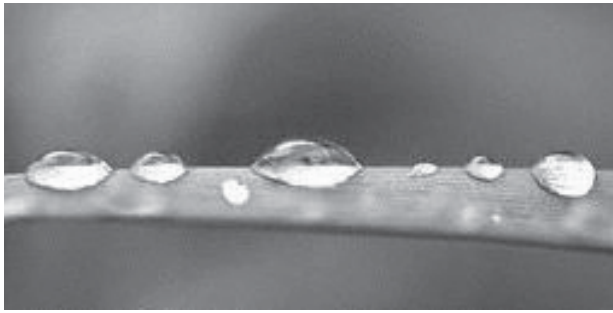
The Developing Virtue Secondary School's courses have been approved by the University of California system for many years. In 2003, the University of California announced that it wanted all private high schools in California whose courses they have already approved to also obtain accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), and they would give each private high school four years to at least attain "candidacy" for accreditation.

On May 21, 2004, a team of two persons from the Accrediting Commission for Schools of WASC visited Developing Virtue Secondary School (DVS) at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas.

The school spent one and a half years preparing for this visit. In that time, the school worked hard to improve its administration, teaching practices, curriculum, and facilities. The administration, with the help of faculty, students, and parents, reformulated the school's Mission Statement and drafted student outcomes. The schools were brightened and improved with new floor tiles, freshly painted classrooms, and various renovations. Our CTTB maintenance crew worked to ensure that the school buildings meet all county and state safety regulations.

Members of Dharma Realm Buddhist Youth brought fresh views and important help this year by assisting the school with the accreditation process. They produced two introductory videos on the school and helped plan and implement the Open House event held earlier this year. New committees were established: the Character Education Council, a School Improvement Team (under the Parent Teacher Organization), and a Culture Committee. Ongoing school improvement activities are planned through a cooperative effort of the schools, parents, students, and community.

The WASC visiting team, Dr. David Brown (Executive Director of WASC) and Mr. Joel Mellinger, were visibly impressed during their tour of the schools. They visited nearly every classroom in



是頭一遭！校園之寧靜，景色之優美，令人賞心悅目。臨走時他還說：「恭喜你們！表現很出色；這兒是樂園，讓我們（此行）很受用！」

七月份，學校收到該會通知書說我們已獲得候選資格；未來兩三年，要受訓與自習雙管齊下；之後，學校才申請正式的認可評鑑。

視察委員會報告¹要點摘錄如下：

該校旨在培養學生，令他們開發潛能，不僅成為好公民…更能奉獻生命，去改善世界。

除了造就個人之品德與價值外，學校也期許培德中學的畢業生，能孜孜不倦求學，由於該校於學生深造準備，成效卓越，該校持續有畢業生進入名校。

該校課程完善，授課內容已經得到加州大學的入學承認。

在男女分校制之下，學生於小班教學中，得到有愛心、有學識之教師的薰陶，該校儼然一家庭，極利於學子成長於其中；其成長的方向，正合乎佛教之義理。

委員會也建議學校：研發、改進科學實驗室設備、改善科技之運用、針對外語學生，應有效加強英語教學計劃、提昇中英文圖書館、完善體育設備和課外活動設施。根據這些建議

，學校將力求在課程與硬體設施上，再求改進，以便嘉惠學生。

¹發自於Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Schools, 533 Airport Blvd., Suite 200, Burlingame, CA 94010. Phone: (650) 696-1060.

both the boys and girls schools, spent twenty minutes enjoying the tranquility in the meditation class, chatted with students, parents, teachers and administrators, and examined numerous binders of administrative and financial documents, syllabi, lesson plans, and student work. As they left, Dr. Brown said, “Let’s keep our A+ schools A+.” Dr. Brown told us this was the first Buddhist high school they have ever visited. They appreciated the peaceful and beautiful setting and said, “Congratulations on your impressive work. Enjoy your paradise,” as they left.

In July, the school received notice that it is now a Candidate for Accreditation. After a two to three year period of training and self-study, the school will apply for accreditation.

The following are excerpts from the Visiting Committee’s report¹:

The school’s purpose is clearly focused on developing students to discover their own potential to not only become good citizens,... “but also to devote their lives to making the world a better place.”

In addition to personal virtue and values, it is also anticipated that graduates of DVS will become enthusiastic about their learning and will be well prepared for a college experience. In demonstration of effective preparation for further education, the school consistently places graduates in prestigious colleges and universities.

The school’s curriculum is thorough and course work has been approved by the University of California for purposes of admission.

In these single gender environments, students are provided nurturing relationships in small class sizes with knowledgeable and caring instructors... A sense of family is clearly in evidence and supports individual growth in directions expected in Buddhist philosophy.

The Committee also recommends that the school explore ways to improve the science lab facilities, to find ways to utilize technology better, to develop a more effective plan for English Language Learners, to upgrade the English and Chinese libraries, and to enhance the facilities used for physical education and extracurricular activities. Based on these recommendations, the school will seek to make improvements in its programs and physical infrastructure in order to better serve its students.

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